

73
MINUTES

— OF THE —

Seventy-third Annual Session

— OF THE —

Mississippi Baptist Association,

— HELD WITH —

EBENEZER CHURCH,

AMITE COUNTY, MISS.,

Commencing Oct. 11th, 1879.

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OFFICERS:

W. W. BOLLS, Moderator. JOS. BUCKLES, Clerk.
W. Z. LEA, Treasurer.

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NATCHEZ:
DUCHESSNE & McNEIL'S JOB PRINT.
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MINUTES

Ministers and Their Post-Offices.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

James Newman.....	Liberty, Miss.
H. G. Quinn.....	Liberty, Miss.
W. W. Boll.....	Liberty, Miss.
S. H. Thompson.....	Liberty, Miss.
E. Young.....	Meadville, Miss.
Z. Lofton.....	McCall's Creek, Miss.
A. L. Travillian.....	Meadville, Miss.
Jos. Buckels.....	Meadville, Miss.
J. P. Hemby.....	Morgan's Fork, Miss.
C. H. Otken.....	Summit, Miss.
R. J. McNeil.....	Centerville, Miss.
D. Ebby.....	Fort Adams, Miss.
E. W. Spensor.....	Fort Adams, Miss.

LICENTIATES.

J. A. Bolls.....	Liberty, Miss.
T. P. Stewart.....	Meadville, Miss.

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MINUTES.

EBENEZER CHURCH, AMITE Co., Miss. }
SATURDAY, October 11th, 1879. }

Pursuant to adjournment, the Mississippi Baptist Association met this day with the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Amite county.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder James Newman, from the latter part of the eighteenth verse of the second chapter of Nehemiah, "So they strengthened their hands for this good work." The discourse was a most excellent one, the speaker, dwelling among other things, upon the fact, that many enterprises fail for want of a leader.

The Association then adjourned to dinner. Prayer by Elder B. A. Crawford.

After an intermission of one hour the Association was called to order by the moderator, Elder, W. W. Bolls. Prayer by Bro. A. G. Dunn.

Elders C. H. Otken and Jos. Buckels were appointed reading clerks. Letters from the churches were called for, read and the names of delegates enrolled.

The Association then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year; Elder's Otken and Buckels acting as tellers, which resulted in the choice of Elder W. W. Bolls as Moderator, Elder Jos. Buckels Clerk, and Bro. W. Z. Lea, Treasurer.

The Moderator upon taking the chair, addressed the Association in a few feeling and appropriate remarks.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats with us, and the invitation was accepted by Elders E. C. Eager, B. A. Crawford, J. J. White. Thomas Lausdell and brethren DeWitt Gordon and Seaborn Reynolds.

A letter from Union Church, Amite county, asking to be admitted into this Association, was received and read, and on motion referred to a committee consisting of Elder's Newman, Otken and Eager.

The following committees were appointed:

On Religious Exercise—The Pastor and Deacons of Ebenezer Church and Brethren S. S. Montgomery and M. Jones.

On Finance—Brethren Z. L. Everett, J. Barkley and George Morris.

On Obituaries—Elders Jos. Buckels, C. H. Otken and Bro. T. P. Stewart.

On Nominations—Brethren A. S. Turner, C. Young and W. B. Kinnabrew.

On Home Missions—Brethren M. Jackson, S. S. Montgomery and W. R. Jones.

On Ministerial Education—Elder James Newman and Brethren W. F. Love and C. P. Jones.

On Sabbath Schools—Brethren J. A. Bolls, T. H. Hoff and S. J. Hodges.

On Publications—Elder J. J. White and Bro. W. L. Jenkins, and on motion the moderator was added.

On Systematic Benevolence—Elders E. C. Eager, C. H. Otken and S. H. Thompson.

On Temperance—Brethren S. E. McDonald, J. A. White and D. L. Smith.

On Abstracts—Brethren W. F. Love, J. M. Bankston and S. Faust.

On the Report of the Trustees of Lea Female College—Elder James Newman and Brethren M. Jackson, S. S. Montgomery, A. S. Turner, W. B. Kinnabrew, and on motion the moderator was added

On motion the order of business of 1871 was adopted. The Committee on Religious Exercise made a partial report, which, after being amended was adopted as follows:

Sunday School Mass Meeting at ten o'clock tomorrow morning to be conducted by the moderator; Missionary Sermon at eleven o'clock tomorrow morning by Elder W. W. Bolls, after which a collection is to be taken up for Missions, and Elder C. H. Otken to preach at two o'clock tomorrow evening.

The Committee to whom was referred the petitionary letter from Union Church, Amite county, made a report recommending the reception of said Church. The report was received and adopted, and on motion the Church was admitted as a member of this Association, and the right hand of fellowship extended to her delegate, Elder S. H. Thompson.

On motion adjourned to 9 o'clock Monday morning. Prayer by Elder S. H. Thompson.

W. W. BOLLS, Moderator.
JOS. BUCKELS, Clerk.

SABBATH EXERCISES.

A large congregation assembled in the Church at ten o'clock A. M. for the purpose of holding the Sunday School Mass Meeting as appointed. The Moderator conducted the exercises; reading the twenty-third chapter of Proverbs. Short and pertinent speeches were made by Elder's J. J. White, James Newman, T. C. M. Golland and Moderator. The exercises were interesting and impressive, and we trust much good will result therefrom.

At 11 o'clock A. M., Elder W. W. Bolls preached on the subject of Missions, from Romans, 10th chapter and 13th, 14th and 17th verses. The sermon was replete with thought and language that was clear, forcible and impressive, demonstrating the fact that salvation is only through faith based upon a scriptural knowledge of Christ, the Son of God, and that the duty of christians, individually and collectively, is to labor for the spread of the Gospel of Christ. A collection being taken up for Missions, the sum of \$27.30 was received.

In the afternoon, Elder C. H. Otken preached from a part of the 13th verse of the 2nd chapter of 1st Samuel, "Them that honor me, I will honor." Bro. Otken's theme was education, and his sermon was a most forcible and impressive argument in favor of education, establishing beyond controversy, that knowledge is essential to success in all things, and that education is the grand lever power that moves the world.

MONDAY MORNING, OCT. 13th, 1879.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.
Prayer by Elder E. C. Eager.

The Rules of Decorum and Powers of the Association were read by the Moderator. Correspondence from sister Associations was called for. Elder B. A. Crawford presented a letter and package of minutes from Bogue Chitto Association, and was on motion received as a messenger from said Association. Elder Thomas Lausdell and Bro. DeWitt Gordon were received as messengers from the Mississippi River Association, and Bro. A. G. Dunn was received as messenger from the East Louisiana Association. The moderator welcomed these brethren to seats with us.

Reports of committees were called for.

The committee on Temperance presented a report which was adopted. See Appendix A.

The committee on Lea Female College presented a report, accompanied by a report of the Trustees of the College, which was adopted. See Appendix B.

On motion the Association empowered the moderator to appoint a Trustee to fill the vacancy on the Board of Trustees of Lea Female College, occasioned by the expiration of the term of Bro. W. Z. Lea. Bro. Lea was re-appointed.

The committee on Obituaries reported. See appendix C.

The committee on Publications presented a report, which, with sundry amendments was adopted. See appendix D.

The committee on Systematic Benevolence made a report. After considerable discussion the report was adopted. See appendix E.

Pending the consideration of the above report, Elder R. J. McNeil, of Galilee Church, being present, was invited to a seat with us, to participate in our deliberations.

A committee appointed two years ago to prepare a Constitution for this Association, reported, pre-

senting a Constitution which they recommended should be submitted to the churches of this Association for their adoption. Report was adopted. See appendix F.

The Executive Board submitted a report of the operations during the past Associational year of our Home Missionary, Elder S. H. Thompson. The report was amended and adopted. See appendix G.

On motion the Association adjourned to dinner.

EVENING SESSION, 2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Association again assembled. Prayer by S. H. Thompson.

The committee on Finance made their report which was adopted. See appendix H.

The committee on Home Missions submitted a report, pending the consideration of which, a motion to limit all speeches to five minutes was adopted. The report was adopted. See appendix I.

The committee on Nominations reported. The report was amended and adopted. See appendix J.

On motion it was,

RESOLVED, That the Missionary Board is hereby instructed to ascertain from the churches, their decision pertaining to Home and Foreign Missions in regard to the recommendations of the Association upon these subjects.

The committee on Sunday Schools presented a report, which, after being amended, was adopted. See appendix K.

The committee on Ministerial Education not being ready to report, on motion the Association passed on to the next rule of business.

A motion to appoint a committee of three to prepare an order of business, and report the same to the next annual meeting of this body, was adopted. Jos. Buckels, S. R. Young and S. S. Montgomery were appointed on said committee.

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The following resolutions were adopted :

RESOLVED, That the thanks of this Association are hereby tendered to the brethren and sisters of Ebenezer Church, and to the friends of the community for the hospitable manner in which they have entertained the Association.

RESOLVED, That the ministers and deacons of this Association meet at a church to be decided upon, on the Saturday before the fifth Sabbath in November next, for the purpose of organizing themselves into an institution as they may decide and agree upon.

On motion it was agreed to meet at Liberty for the purpose above stated.

The committee on Ministerial Education presented their report, which was adopted. See appendix L.

The committee on Abstracts reported. Report was adopted. See appendix M.

The contributions of the churches appearing insufficient to pay for the publication of the minutes, a motion was adopted requesting the churches to send up one dollar additional contribution to be forwarded to Bro. W. Z. Lea, at Liberty.

On motion the clerk was instructed to have the minutes printed at the office of the Baptist Record at Jackson, Mississippi, provided the work can be done as cheaply there as elsewhere.

On motion, it was

RESOLVED, That the moderator appoint a committee of one to examine into the practicability of having the minutes of this Association, from its formation to the present time, published in book form, and if the same can, in his opinion be done, that he have them so published, and that the deacons of the churches of this Association are hereby requested to act in conjunction with said committee in raising the necessary funds.

On motion, the Association agreed to invite and send messengers to Fair River, Union, Mississippi River, Bogue Chitto and East Louisiana Associations, and the following messengers were appointed:

To Fair River, Elders C. H. Otken, James Newman and Brother S. Hodges.

To Union, Elders W. W. Bolls, Jos. Buckels and Brother T. P. Stewart.

To Mississippi River, Elders James Newman, C. H. Otken and Brother S. R. Young.

To Bogue Chitto, Elders C. H. Otken, James Newman, W. W. Bolls, R. J. McNeil and brethren A. S. Turner and Z. L. Everett.

To East Louisiana, brethren M. Chance and J. A. White.

The messengers were on motion empowered and requested to prepare their own letters of correspondence. On motion, it was

RESOLVED, That the Clerk have as many copies of minutes printed as may be necessary, and that he be allowed the sum of \$25.00 for his services.

On motion the Association proceeded to select its place of meeting for next year. Hopewell Church, Franklin county, was selected.

The Association then adjourned to meet at Hopewell Church, on Saturday, before the second Sabbath in October 1880.

A feeling address was made by the moderator.

The hymn "Blessed be the tie that binds, &c." was sung, the delegates giving each other the parting hand.

W. W. BOLLS, Moderator,
JOS. BUCKELS, Clerk.

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APPENDICES.

Appendix A.

Your committee on Temperance would beg leave to make the following report: That we earnestly urge upon the churches composing your honorable body, the necessity of keeping up a strict discipline in regard to the subject of Temperance. The evils arising from the intemperate use of ardent spirits are manifold. Your Committee are of the opinion that a majority of cases, arising in the churches where discipline becomes necessary, if traced to their true source, will be found to have their origin in the intemperate use of ardent spirits. We would therefore urge upon the heads of families the necessity of training up their children aright in regard to this matter. We could refer you to scripture in support of our position, but we deem it unnecessary. We might also refer you to statistics, showing the vast quantity of liquors consumed in this and other countries, together with the cost to the consumers, but think it unnecessary. We will therefore urge upon your body the necessity of total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors as a beverage. All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. E. McDONALD, Chair.

Appendix B.

LEA FEMALE COLLEGE—Your committee submit the following report: We have read with great pleasure the report of the Board of Trustees of Lea Female College, located in the town of Summit. From the report we learn the following facts: the college was opened for the reception of pupils

in the fall of 1877, a board of fifteen trustees was incorporated by a charter from the state; the trustees are appointed by the Mississippi and Bogue Chitto Associations, and the Summit Baptist Church. The grounds of the college are ample, covering two squares, and the main building is in excellent condition. A building containing an audience room, recitation and main rooms is needed at once. Bro. Chas. H. Otken is by the provisions of the charter, president of the college for life. All the features of the schools look to permanency. The school has been in operation two scholastic years, the results are good, but we must look to the future for its mission, rather than the present. We congratulate our brethren and our friends upon the successful commencement of this long neglected department of christian work. We commend the college and its president to the kind consideration and patronage of all our people. We would especially urge that our churches and people contribute of their means to make the college what it should be and what it will be, an honor to the Baptist Denomination. We have slumbered while stirring activities characterized the educational endeavors of others. Knowledge is power, educational institution promote it; as a people we cannot afford to dispise the advantages of education; nor is it wise to cultivate other fields and suffer our section to remain an undeveloped waste in all that gives influence and character to a people. No people should be more persevering in promoting educational institutions than Baptists; they encourage independent investigations in all things; they have led the van in the advocacy of religious liberty. Our ability is not wanting; if we occupy a secondary position it is to be ascribed to a want of energy, determination and common sagacity; our churches number ten thousand communicants

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in South Mississippi and East Louisiana. If each member gives one dollar a year for educational purposes it will raise a sum of ten thousand dollars, and for five years we can raise fifty thousand dollars; this will be no burden, and it will furnish us with the most ample appliances. It is for brethren and friends to say whether we shall possess this land in respect to educational advantages. In view of these considerations we recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. We accept the right to appoint annually, one member of the Board of Trustees of Lea Female College, located at Summit Mississippi.

2. We approve the reduction of the board to five members, and that the president of the college be added to that number as a member ex-officio.

3. That we authorize the board, the other appointing bodies concurring, to secure such changes in the charter as in their judgment may seem wise, not however to effect the right to appoint trustees by the existing appointing bodies.

4. That we, the oldest Association in the State of Mississippi do most earnestly recommend to our own churches that they give as a free-will offering for the benefit of Lea Female College, during the coming Associational year, an amount equal to two dollars and fifty cents per capita of its membership.

5. That we invite the president of the college, Bro. Chas. H. Otken to visit all our churches for this purpose, and that we recommend that our ministers, deacons and people co-operate in this work.

Respectfully submitted,

M. JACKSON.	} Committee.
S. S. MONTGOMERY.	
JAMES NEWMAN.	
A. S. TURNER.	
W. B. KINNABREW.	
W. W. BOLLS.	

Appendix C:

Your committee on Obituaries beg leave to make

the following report: That death has been abroad in the land, and quite a number of our brethren and sisters have, since our last meeting, passed from the scene of their labors on earth to the glorious place of rest in heaven, there, we trust, to shine forth in the brightness of their risen Lord. In submission to the will of Him who does all things in wisdom, we bow, and while to the bereaved ones we would extend our heartfelt sympathy, yet feeling and knowing the insufficiency of human consolation, we commend them to Him who said "Come unto me all ye that labor, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Respectfully submitted,

JOS. BUCKELS,
C. H. OTKEN, } Committee,
T. P. STEWART. }

Appendix D.

Your committee on Publications would beg leave to make the following report: That we heartily endorse and recommend the "Baptist Record" published at Jackson, Miss., as an able defender of Baptist principles, and from which we learn what we, as a denomination are doing, both in Mississippi and Louisiana. We would also recommend the "Foreign Mission Journal," published at Richmond, Va., by H. A. Tupper. We learn from it something of our work in the foreign field, and thus are made to feel a greater and deeper interest in that important work. We would also recommend the "Baptist Year Book" and "Southern Baptist" to the favorable notice of the brethren, Therefore.

RESOLVED, That the ministers and delegates of this Association urge the members of their churches and others to subscribe for these papers.

Respectfully submitted,

J. J. WHITE, Chair.

Appendix E.

Your committee on Systematic Benevolence respectfully submit the following: That order is the

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first law of heaven, that God himself adopted order and system in the six days work of creation, and the same is seen in his works of Providence. So when he organized his chosen people, the Jews, into a body politic, he adopted order and system. The nation was divided into twelve tribes, and each tribe was divided into families. As a civil body they had their King, Princes and Rulers; as a religious body they had their High Priest, Priests and Levites, and all their national expenses were raised by the enforced system of tithes; so that each tribe and family bore its pro rata of the civil and religious expenses of the nation. So order and system were observed in the New as well as in the Old Dispensation. The first order is that none but penitent believers should be admitted into this Dispensation; that even they should not be admitted without baptism, and that they should be retained in fellowship only so long as they walked orderly, requiring all who walked disorderly to be set aside, or excluded from fellowship. The order and system adopted by God for the support of the Old Testament Ministry is referred to by the Apostle Paul to the Corinthians, who there says "Even so, hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel." What the Apostle says in Corinthians shows clearly that order and system were observed in all the Apostolic Churches in their work of benevolence, and the inference is very plain that order and system were observed by them in all things, and that this was enjoined upon them by an inspired Apostle as a sacred duty; that there should be equality in all things, so that none should be burdened. In our judgment what was duty then, is duty now, for so hath God ordained in all the churches. In conclusion therefore we recommend—

1. That our churches raise during the coming

year ten cents per member, for Home Missions, and five cents for Foreign Missions.

2. That each church take action on the subject of this report, and the course recommended herein, and report the result of such action to the Missionary Board, and to the Association in its next annual letter.

E. C. EAGER.
C. H. OTKEN.
S. H. THOMPSON, } Committee.

Appendix F.

Report of the Committee on Constitution :

PREAMBLE

We the churches composing the Mississippi Baptist Association, in order to promote system and harmony in the internal affairs of our churches, to establish a union of churches based upon principles to promote more efficiently the cause of Missions, and of higher christian education, and to secure to ourselves and our posterity the blessings flowing from christian organization in prosecuting the work of our Divine Master, do establish and adopt this Constitution for the Mississippi Baptist Association :

CONSTITUTION.

ART. I. Name—The name of this body shall be the MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

ART. II. Basis of Union—The basis of union of the churches composing this Association shall be conformity in the articles of faith, morality of the churches, respect for the decisions of sister churches of the Association pertaining to church-fellowship, and an annual report by the churches adopting or rejecting the recommendatory measures of this body. No church shall become a member of this Association without signifying its willingness to conform to these conditions.

ART. III. Power of the Association—This Association shall not legislate for the churches in any

sense whatever. All its measures shall be recommendations, but these shall be voted on by the churches, and the approval or disapproval shall be reported at the annual meeting after their enactment to the Association, unless otherwise ordered as to time by the body.

ART. IV. Objects—The objects of this Association shall be by means of advisory measures to develop and systematize the work of the churches respecting their internal affairs, the Mission interests, the building of Institutions of Learning in their midst and such general matters pertaining to the Denomination at large, as may from time to time be brought to the attention of this body. The Association shall always consider the wants of the home field in their recommendations, and these shall have precedence over general Denominational matters.

ART. V. Messengers—Each church belonging to this Association shall be entitled to two messengers until such church has one hundred members then one additional messenger for each fifty members or fractional part of fifty. Such messengers shall be received when properly accredited by their respective churches, and all the messengers so sent shall form the Association.

ART. VI. Officers—The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall be elected from the messengers of this Association annually, by a majority of the votes cast immediately after the enrollment of the messengers.

ART. VII. Duties of the Moderator and Recording Secretary—It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside at all meetings of the Association, to put all motions when properly seconded, and to declare the result, and to give the casting vote when the members are equally divided. He may

speak on any subject by calling some member to the Chair. The Recording Secretary shall keep a faithful record of all the proceedings of the Association, have the same printed in such numbers as may be directed by the body and distribute them among the churches. He shall be allowed such a sum for his services and for postage, as the Association may order.

ART. VIII. Duties of Corresponding Secretary—The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the general correspondence of the Association, familiarize himself with the general wants of the churches and the field, and he may obtain from the churches their decisions in regard to the recommendatory measures of the Association, but this shall not relieve the churches from reporting the same decisions to this body in their annual letters. He shall be allowed pay for postage and stationery. If other duties are assigned to him, such remuneration shall be allowed him as the Association may order. He shall make an annual report of his work.

ART. IX. Duties of Treasurer—It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all money through a Finance Committee, to be appointed annually, and disburse the same as he may be ordered by the Association, or by the Mission Board, for Missionary purposes during the recess of this body. He shall make an annual report to the Association of receipts and disbursements.

ART. X. Mission Board—There shall be appointed annually through the Committee on Nominations, a Mission Board of five brethren, who shall employ one or more missionaries to preach in destitute communities within the boundaries of the Association. They shall meet as often as circumstance may require, agree upon the salary of their Missionaries and draw upon the Treasurer for the sum required. They shall not involve the As-

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sociation in debt. They shall make annually a report of the destitute places in the field, the work done the Missionaries employed, and such matters as may be of interest to this body.

ART. XI. Committee on Recommendations—There shall be appointed annually a Committee of three on Recommendations, whose specific duty it shall be to report recommendations to be submitted to the churches for their action, pertaining to the Internal Affairs of the churches, to Missions and Educational Institutions in our midst and general Denominational enterprises.

The Committee shall make its report during the annual meeting following that of its appointment. If there is urgent work to be done, a partial report may be made during the annual meeting of appointment. All recommendations, approved or disapproved by the churches, shall be reported by them, naming each church, and what each approves or disapproves.

ART. XII. Committee on Miscellaneous Matter—There shall be annually appointed by the Association, Committees of three members each on the following subjects: Nominations to select the Mission Board, and the minister to preach the introductory sermon; on Religious Exercises during the session of the Association; on Obituaries; on Order of Business for the second day of the business session; on Finance; on Compilation of Statistics and such other committees as may be suggested from time to time. No committee shall be appointed on any matter requiring church action, save the Committee on Recommendations.

ART. XIII. Constitution and Articles of Faith—This Constitution and the Articles of Faith of the Association, and all amendments that may be made, shall be printed in the minutes of each annual meeting of this body.

ART. XIV. Visiting Brethren—Visiting brethren may be invited to seats in the Association, and participate in its deliberations by permission of the Moderator, but they shall not have the right to vote.

ART. XV. Corresponding Baptist Advisory Organizations.—This Association may appoint Messengers annually to Baptist Advisory Organization, with a view to promote Christian work. A letter of appointment from the Recording Secretary shall be the credentials of the messenger. If the letter is printed in the minutes it shall be sufficient authority. The messengers may be instructed as to the specific work to be done. An invitation to any Baptist Advisory Organization to send messengers to us may be extended.

ART. XVI. Queries—No queries save those coming from churches of our Association shall be deemed worthy of consideration. Queries from our own churches shall be referred to an appropriate committee. If the matter of the query refers to the common interests of the churches and requiring church action it shall be placed in possession of the Committee on Recommendations.

ART. XVII. Place and Time of Association.—The place and time of each annual meeting of the Association shall be determined by a majority vote. The Recording Secretary shall place the Churches inviting the Association to meet with them in nomination.

ART. XVIII. Associational Fund—The churches composing this Association shall send annually by the hands of their messengers such a sum of money as will be sufficient to defray its contingent expenses, such as printing of minutes, postage and Secretary's salary.

ART. XIX. Donations—The officers of this body shall be authorized to receive donations or

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bequests for any of the Benevolent enterprises of this Association, and they shall report the same to the annual meeting after the gift was made.

ART. XX. Order of Business—The order of business for the organization of the Association shall be as follows:

1. Enrollment of Messengers.
2. Election of Officers.
3. Appointment of Constitutional Committees
 - A. On Recommendations.
 - B. On Nominations.
 - C. On Religious Exercises.
 - D. On Obituaries.
 - E. On Order of Business.
 - F. On Finance.
 - G. On Compilation of Statistics.
4. Committees on Miscellaneous Matter.
5. Adjournment.

ART. XXI. Amendments—All amendments to this Constitution shall be submitted to the churches of this Association for their action, and a two-thirds vote of all the churches in the Association shall be necessary to adoption.

Your Committee would submit the following resolutions:

1. That the Constitution be submitted to the churches for their adoption.
2. That this Constitution be printed in the minutes.
3. That the churches vote upon the adoption or rejection of it as soon as it can be read to the churches.
4. That the Committee shall be continued, who shall receive and report the action of the churches in regard to the Constitution.

Respectfully,

CHAS. H. OTKEN,
W. W. BOLLS,
JAMES NEWMAN } Committee.

Appendix G.

The Executive Board of the Mississippi Baptist Association would beg leave to make the following report:

Soon after the last meeting of the Association the Board met at Liberty and organized by electing W. Z. Lea, Chairman and M. Jackson Secretary. The Board employed Bro. Thompson to labor in the same field that he occupied the year previous, it being the request of those people that Elder Thompson be sent back to preach to them. We have received communications from those churches testifying that his labors were faithful. He has baptized twenty this year in his field of labor, and several others are to be baptized at their next meeting. He has constituted and organized two churches this year in that field. Those people request the Board to continue Elder Thompson with them another year. Bro. Thompson has traveled over twenty-five hundred miles this past year to preach to those people. We have paid him one hundred and fourteen dollars and fifty cents, and are ready to make it one hundred and fifty dollars. He has two hundred and fifty dollars promised on the field of labor. What portion of that sum will be paid we cannot say. We believe that no other man in the Association would perform the same labor for so little compensation.

There are still other destitute places in our bounds that we would send the Gospel to, if we had the means. We would earnestly request the messengers from the churches, with their pastors to do all they can to furnish the Board with means to send the Gospel to every destitute portion in our bounds. We believe that the Lord has blessed our efforts, and we feel encouraged. We have not received anything from many of our churches the past year for missions. We fear their pastors have not

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done their duty, or we would have received something from those churches. We have addressed a letter to nearly all the churches in the Association requesting them to do something for Missions, but we have not heard from many of them. Your Board would suggest that we be authorized to give what we have on hand to our Missionary for his past services.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Z. LEA, Chairman.

Appendix H.

Your Committee on Finance would report as follows:
Received from the Churches for Association

tional purposes,.....	\$ 68.70
For Home Missions,.....	48.60
For Foreign Missions,.....	11.00
Collect'ns on Sabbath for Foreign Missions	27.05
For Home Missions,.....	.25
Total,.....	\$155.60

We have examined the report of the Treasurer and find the same correct.

Z. L. EVERETT, Chair.

TREASURER'S REPORT.—W. Z. Lea, Treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Association for the year 1879, charges and credits himself as follows:

Received from Finance Committee last year.....	\$165 80
From former Treasurer,.....	24 18
From Mt. Zion Church,.....	12 00
From Zion Hill Church,.....	7 45
From Galilee Church,.....	17 00
From Liberty Church,.....	5 00
From Mrs. Mary Dodds of Franklin County.....	5 00
From Ebenezer Church,.....	6 10
From Summit Church,.....	5 50
Total,.....	\$248 63
Paid out the following sums:	
To S. H. Thompson,.....	\$114 50
For Printing Minutes,.....	44 80
To J. A. Bolls, for services as Clerk,.....	20 00
To F. W. Stratton, for postage,.....	3 95
To George T. Gray, for freight on minutes,.....	80
To H. A. Tupper, Sec. Foreign Mission Board,.....	17 20
For Ministerial Education,.....	3 00
For Correspondence with Churches,.....	1 00
Total,.....	\$205 25
Balance on hand, this Oct. 11th, 1879,.....	\$42 78
Respectfully Submitted,	W. Z. LEA, Treasurer.

Appendix I.

Your committee on Home Missions has given to this subject considerable thought, and from every stand point, regard the Home Mission effort as of the last importance. While we favor Foreign Missions and would urge the brethren throughout the bounds of this Association to renewed energy in raising funds to send the Gospel to the remote heathen lands, we by no means would give expression to the idea that our zeal for Home Missionary labor should ever flag; but on the contrary, unhesitatingly say that of the two fields for work, the Home Mission service should claim our first and highest consideration. In raising funds for this Mission we but clear the way to foreign fields, and, as we believe take the most important step in that direction. Let us first see that the Gospel is preached to the destitute regions within our own bounds. Let us first endeavor to build up, with the help of God, churches in all destitute neighborhoods within our limits. Let us unite in one common effort to send a Missionary to proclaim the truth of the Gospel in this field; and when we shall have succeeded in doing so, we will have secured the assistance of christians in these localities, which will be materially felt when we come to the work of raising money for foreign missionary employment. We rejoice that we are able to report that within the bounds of this Association we have had the efficient and untiring labors of Bro. S. H. Thompson, whose labors have been wonderfully blessed of God in the conversion of souls to Christ, and in the building up of churches that for many years have been without preaching. And through Elder Thompson's instrumentality new churches have been constituted and are now actively engaged in building up the cause of the Redeemer in a recently destitute re-

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gion. We are able to report a collection from the various churches composing this Association to the amount of \$48.60, and we hope and trust that the churches will continue to be engaged in this great work, and if possible keep Elder Thompson in this important work, which he has proved himself so earnestly qualified for.

MOSES JACKSON, Chairman.

Appendix J.

Your committee on Nominations beg leave to report as follows: Executive Board, M. Jackson, of New Providence; W. Z. Lea, of Liberty; R. S. McLain of Liberty, and James E. Bates of East Fork. To preach the next Introductory Sermon, Jos. Buckels, and C. H. Otken his alternate.

Respectfully submitted,

A. S. TURNER. } Committee.
C. YOUNG, }

Appendix K.

Your committee on Sunday Schools would beg leave to submit the following: We deem it altogether unnecessary to produce any argument to show that it is a good thing to engage in the Sunday School work, or that it is the duty of christians. This we believe is generally admitted. The important question with us to-day, is, not how to make church members know their duty in this respect, but how to get them to do it. We believe that pastors where their churches are asleep on this subject, should do all in their power to wake them up to their duty; and we believe that if they can succeed in getting our active, public spirited, working christians awake to his duty in each church the work will prove successful. Each school needs a man of this sort for superintendent. Why it is the deacons of churches and leading members generally, are not alive on this subject,

is a problem we are not able to solve. It is a lamentable fact that they are not sufficiently interested,

Respectfully,

T. H. HOFF, Chairman.

Appendix L.

Your committee on Ministerial Education would respectfully submit the following: We recognize the importance of this subject, and believe it devolves upon the churches to educate their ministry for the work that God has laid upon them. Infidelity and base sectarianisms are abroad in our land, and will have to be combatted by efficient soldiers, or slow will be our progress. We believe the day has come when it behooves Baptists not to be more behind in the means of advancing the cause of Christ than other denominations, and an educated ministry is prerequisite in the work of our Divine Master; for our ability to do good is in proportion to the degree of education our minds have received, other things being equal. We would urge upon our churches to contribute of their means for the education of those who are believed to be converted men, and called to preach the Gospel. We believe it to be the duty of this Association to look especially after the education of the young ministers in her own bounds. We have licentiates at Mississippi College, who are greatly in need of help, and others have had to leave there and go to other institutions of learning for want of aid from the Baptist Denomination. Brethren let us be more zealous and liberal in this work.

Respectfully,

JAMES NEWMAN, Chairman.

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Appendix M.

Your committee on Abstracts would report the following:

CHURCHES.	CONDITION.	PASTORS.
Summit,	Prospering,	L. S. Piker.
Fort Adams,	Revived,	E. W. Spencer.
Mt. Zion,	At Peace,	W. W. Bolls.
Dry Fork Union,	Harmonious,	S. H. Thompson
Pioneer,	Revived,	S. H. Thompson.
Ebenezer.	Strengthened,	Thos. Lausdell
Zion Hill,	Prospering,	W. W. Bolls.
Union, Franklin,	Lukewarm,	Jos. Buckels.
Liberty,	Progressing,	W. W. Bolls.
New Providence,	Lukewarm,	James Newman
Spring Hill,	Very dependent,	
East Fork,	At peace,	James Newman.
Galilee,	Cold.	W. W. Bolls.
New Hope,	Prosperous,	S. Morris.
Sarepta,	Cold,	S. Morris.
Percey's Creek,	Revived,	E. W. Spencer.
Mars Hill,	At peace.	James Newman.
Wall Street, Natchez,	Still existing	J. P. Hemby
Union, Amite,	Newly organized,	S. H. Thompson
Hopewell,	Spiritual condition good,	Jos. Buckels
Respectfully submitted,		
W. F. LOVE, Chair,		

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Articles of Faith, Rules, Etc.

—OF THE—

Mississippi Baptist Association.

1. We believe in one only true living God; and that there are a trinity of persons in the Godhead—the Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost, the same in essence, equal in power and glory.

2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God are of divine authority, and the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the fall of Adam; in the imputation of his sins to all his posterity; in the total depravity of human nature; and in man's inability to restore himself to the favor of God.

4. We believe in the everlasting love of God to his people; in the eternal, unconditional election of a definite number of the human family to grace and glory.

5. We believe that sinners are only justified in the sight of God, by imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ, which is unto all and upon all them that believe.

6. We believe all those who were chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world are, in time, effectually called, regenerated, converted and sanctified; and are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

7. We believe there is one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus, who, by the satisfaction which he made to law and justice, "in becoming an offering for sin," hath, by his most precious blood, redeemed the elect from under the curse of the law, that they might be holy and without blame before him in love.

8. We believe good works are the fruits of faith and follow after justification; are evidences of a gracious state, and that it is the duty of all believers to perform them from a principle of love.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and a general judgement, and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

ON GOSPEL ORDER.

1. We believe that that visible church of Jesus Christ is a congregation of faithful persons, who have given themselves up to the Lord, and to one another, and have covenanted to keep up a Godly discipline agreeable to the rules of the Gospel.

2. We believe that Jesus Christ is the head of the church, the only law giver; that the government is with the body—the church, and is equally the right and privilege of each member thereof.

3. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are Gospel Ordinances, appointed by Jesus Christ, and are to be continued in the church.

4. We believe that baptism by immersion is the only scriptural mode, and that believers are the only proper subjects.

5. We believe that none but regular baptized church members have a right to partake of the Lord's Supper.

6. We believe it to be the duty and privilege of all believers to make a public profession of their

faith, to submit to baptism, by immersion, and to give themselves members of the visible church.

7. We believe it to be the duty of every organized church to expel from her communion all disorderly members who are immoral in their lives, or hold doctrines contrary to the Scriptures.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. Those delegates who are regularly chosen by the churches in our union shall compose the Association.

2. The delegates so chosen shall produce letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, together with their number in fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and dead since the last Association.

3. The delegates thus chosen and convened shall be denominated the "Mississippi Baptist Association."

4. This Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen by the members present.

5. If new churches desire to be admitted into the union, they shall petition by letter and delegates; if, on examination, found orthodox and orderly, they shall be received by the Association, manifested by the Moderator giving their delegates the right hand of fellowship.

6. No church in the union shall have a right to more than two delegates, until she shall have a right to an additional delegate for every fifty.

7. Every query sent to the Association by any church in the union, shall be read and put to vote by the Moderator, whether it shall be debated, and and if there be a majority for it, it shall be taken up and investigated; provided, always that those be first considered which effect the union of churches.

8. Every motion made and seconded shall be taken up by the Association, except it be withdrawn by the person who made it.

9. Only one person shall speak at once, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator.

10. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted, except he depart from the subject, break the rules of decorum, or cast reflection on a brother, in which case he shall be immediately called to order, by the Moderator.

11. No person shall speak more than twice upon the same subject without leave of the Association.

12. No brother shall be suffered to whisper or laugh during the conference; neither shall he absent himself without leave of the Moderator.

13. The Moderator shall have the liberty of speaking on any question that may be debated, provided the chair may be previously filled, and have the privilege of voting only when the Association is equally divided.

14. The names of the delegates shall be enrolled by the Clerk, and called over as often as the Association may deem expedient.

15. We think it absolutely necessary to have an Association fund for defraying the expenses of the same; for the raising and supporting of which, we think it the duty of each church in the union to contribute such sums as they deem proper, and send by the hands of their delegates to the Association; and the money thus contributed by the churches shall be deposited in the hands of a Treasurer, by the Association, who shall be accountable to the Association for all moneys by him received and paid out, according to the direction of the same.

16. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association rises.

17. These Rules of Decorum and Gospel Order may be altered, changed or amended, from time to time, or any part of them, when a majority of all the churches in the Association shall deem it necessary, but the Articles of Faith shall not be subject to any alteration, only as respects form.

POWER OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1. It shall be the business of this Association to provide for the union of the churches.

2. To keep up a friendly correspondence, when convenient, with those Associations of the same faith and order.

3. This Association shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor infringe upon any of the internal rights of the churches.

4. It shall be the duty of this Association to give the churches, the best advice in its power in difficult matters; to inquire into any difficulties which may exist between their sister churches and remove them if possible.

5. To admit any of the brethren in the ministry as assistants, but not to give them the privilege of voting.

6. This Association shall have power to withdraw from any church in the union which may be unsound in principle or immoral in practice, until reclaimed.

7. To appoint any person or persons by and with their consent, to transact any business which the Association may deem necessary,

8. The Association shall have power to adjourn to any time or place they may think most proper.

9. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	Counties and Post-Offices.	DELEGATES.	Baptized	Reedy Lay	Restored	Dismissed	Excluded	Lived	Whites	Blacks	Total	Ministors	Cop. Min	Count- buttons	Sub. Meet	Missionary
Danascus, ...	Caseyville, Lincoln Co., Miss.	No delegation.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	42	.....	25	2 01	.....	4 60
Dry Fork Union, ...	Woodville, Wilkinson Co. Miss.	D. N. Carlin, W. W. Parton.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	146	.....	1 56	5 00	.....	.....
East Fork, ...	Liberty Amite Co., Miss.	Jas. Newman, T. W. Gray, W. L. Jenkins.	9	1	2	1	1	4	106	40	146	.....	1 56	3 20	2	10 00
Ebenezer, ...	Rose Hill, Amite Co., Miss.	S. R. Young, W. B. Kinabrew, J. A. White.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	58	.....	20	3 00	.....	8 00
Fort Adams, ...	Fort Adams, Wilkin-son Co., Miss.	J. H. Barkley, Noah James.	7	1	1	1	10	4	.....	.....	121	.....	1 25	5 00	.....	17 50
Galilee, ...	Centerville, Amite Co., Miss.	T. H. Hoff, W. H. Jenkins.	1	1	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	53	.....	1 25	5 00	.....	8 50
Hopewell, ...	Meadville, Franklin Co. Miss.	S. S. Montgomery, Jos Buckels.	6	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	166	.....	1 30	4 00	.....	15 00
Liberty, ...	Liberty, Amite Co. Miss.	W. W. Bolls, J. A. Bolls, W. F. Love.	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	116	.....	40	5 00	.....	5 00
Mars Hill, ...	Summit, Miss.	A. S. Turner, S. J. Hodges.	10	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	325	.....	50	6 00	4	9 40
Mt. Zion, ...	Little Spring, Franklin Co.,	C. P. Jones, C. Young.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	103	.....	30	3 00	.....	.....
Natchez, ...	Natchez, Adams Co., Miss.	Letter, No Delegation.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	83	.....	30	3 00	.....	.....
New Hope, ...	Meadville, Franklin Co., Miss.	T. E. Stewart, J. R. Cupit.	10	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	77	5	103	.....	30	3 00	.....	.....
New Providence, ...	Liberty Amite Co. Miss.	M. Jackson, G. W. Causey.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	43	.....	30	3 50	.....	4 30
Percy's Creek, ...	Woodville, Wilkinson Co. Miss.	S. E. McDonald, G. S. Morris.	8	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Providence, ...	Woodville, Franklin Co., Miss.	No Delegation.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pioneer, ...	Meadville, Wilkinson Co., Miss.	David Smith, John Sturgeon.	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	43	.....	25	5 30	.....	.....
Ramah, ...	McCalla Creek, Franklin Co.,	No Delegation.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sarepta, ...	Meadville, Franklin Co., Miss.	J. M. Bankston.	14	5	4	17	10	1	.....	.....	70	.....	20	3 00	.....	.....
Springhill, ...	Kibboville, Franklin Co. Miss.	S. H. Thompson.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Summit, ...	Summit, Pike Co., Miss.	C. H. Otken, Z. L. Everett.	.....	.....	1	17	4	2	.....	.....	132	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Union, ...	Morgan's Fork, Franklin Co.,	Letter, No Delegation.	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	138	.....	1 30	4 00	4	5 00
Union, ...	Liberty, Amite Co. Miss.	S. H. Thompson.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16	.....	40	5 00	1	4 50
Zion, Hill, ...	Zion Hill, Amite Co. Miss.	M. Jones, W. R. Jones, Elijah Cain.	4								160		40	5 00	1	4 50

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In College Department, - - - - \$80.00

MUSIC:

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Instruction per term for all others, - - \$25.00

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